



# Marine Corps Transformational Concepts and Seabasing

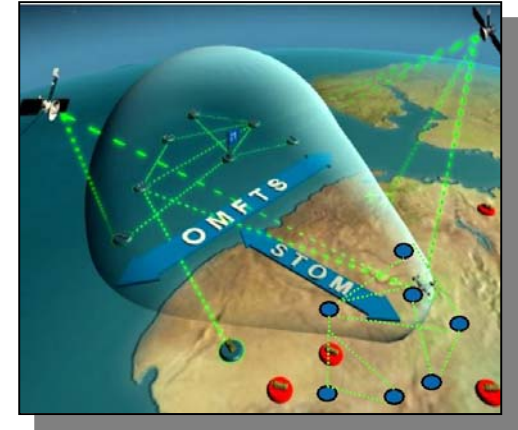


Objective

Brigadier General Thomas L. Conant  
Director  
Expeditionary Force Development Center  
Marine Corps Combat Development Command  
Quantico, VA 22134

# Coherent Concepts

- **Integrated concepts drive our design of future forces & establish the framework for our operational efforts**
  - Seabasing: Projecting, protecting, and sustaining national capabilities from the sea by leveraging forward presence to generate operational flexibility and strategic speed
    - Operational Maneuver From the Sea (OMFTS): Exploiting the sea as a means of gaining advantage to resolve “Chaos in the Littorals”
    - Ship-to-Objective Maneuver (STOM): Projecting combined-arms forces by air & surface directly to critical operational objectives, dislocating adversaries in space and time
- **Distributed Operations (DO): Informing training, education, & equipment for junior leaders, to expand awareness & influence across the battlespace**

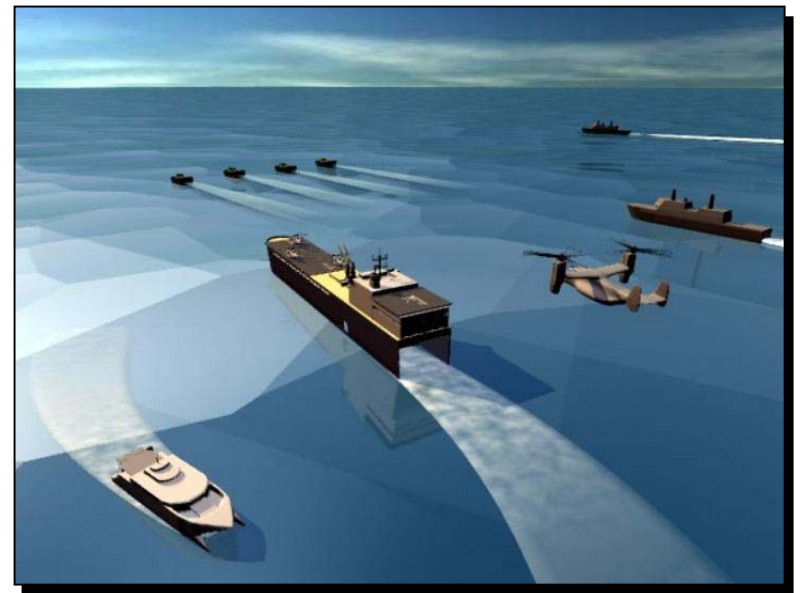


**“The chaos of the future requires ... the capability to project power ashore ... ranging from overcoming devastated infrastructure to assisting a friendly people in need of disaster relief to countering the entire spectrum of armed threats.”**

# Seabasing

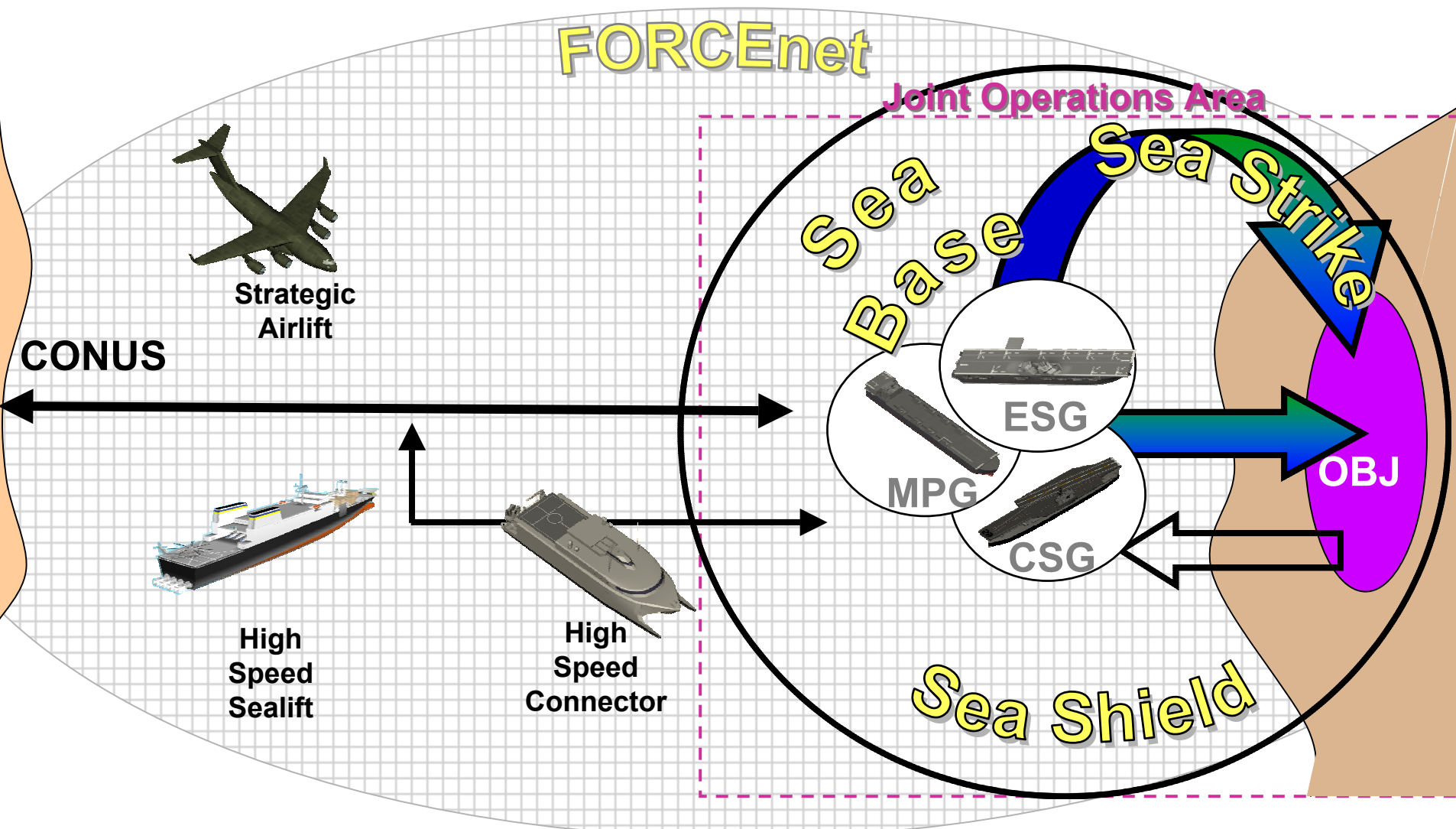
## *Concept*

- **Control the contested zones by commanding the commons**
- **Reduced dependence on vulnerable land bases**
- **Maximum forward presence with minimum OpTempo**
- **Phased At-Sea Arrival and Assembly, Selective Offload, and Projection of a MEB-sized Force within 10 – 14 days**
- **Supporting the Joint fight**
  - Advance Force operations
  - SpecOps capabilities / SOF support
  - Joint sustainment
  - Joint C2
  - Sea-based aviation



# Seabasing

*Projecting Power without a Permission Slip*

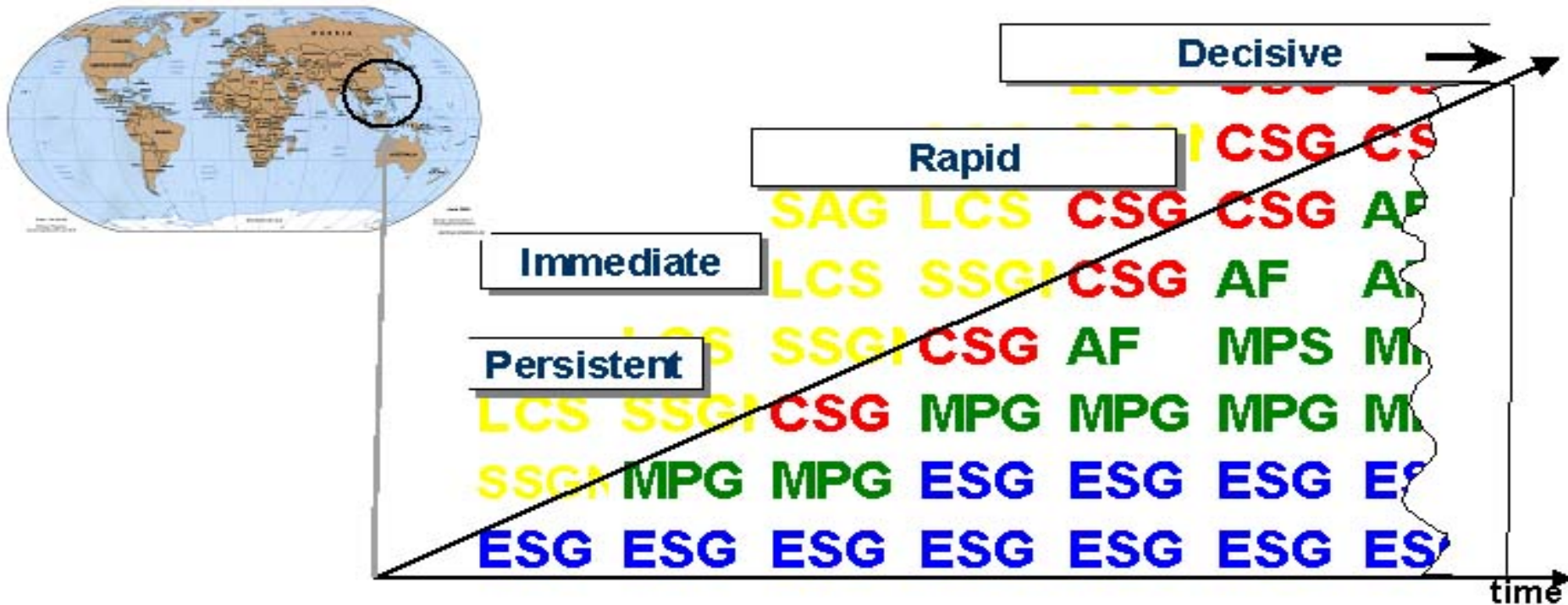


**A Scalable Sea-based “System of Systems” that Provides Operational Access & Generates Strategic Speed**



# Organize

## *Modular & Adaptive Capability Sets*



***“This new distributed combat force provides ... the ability to immediately transition from a posture of deterrence to one that supports full-scale joint combat operations with long-term sustainability.”*** - Naval Operating Concept for Joint Operations

**Complementary Capability Packages**

# MPF (Future)



- **Enhances the means for conducting and/or supporting OMFTS and STOM from a Sea Base. MPF(F) consisting of ships which have prepositioned USMC equipment and supplies on them.**
- **Scalable Capabilities:**
  - “Force Closure” of personnel/aircraft
    - Air/surface interface, personnel billeting, support facilities
  - “ATF Interoperability”
  - “Sustainment” (conduit for log support, maintenance, selective offload)
  - “Reconstitution and Redeployment”
- **Characteristics:**
  - Support Rotary Wing (RW) and Tilt Rotor (TR) Aviation
  - Support Over-The-Horizon (OTH) surface lighterage
  - Support skin to skin cargo transfer

# Operational Maneuver From The Sea

---

- **Exploits the sea as maneuver space**
- **Creates multiple dilemmas for our enemies**

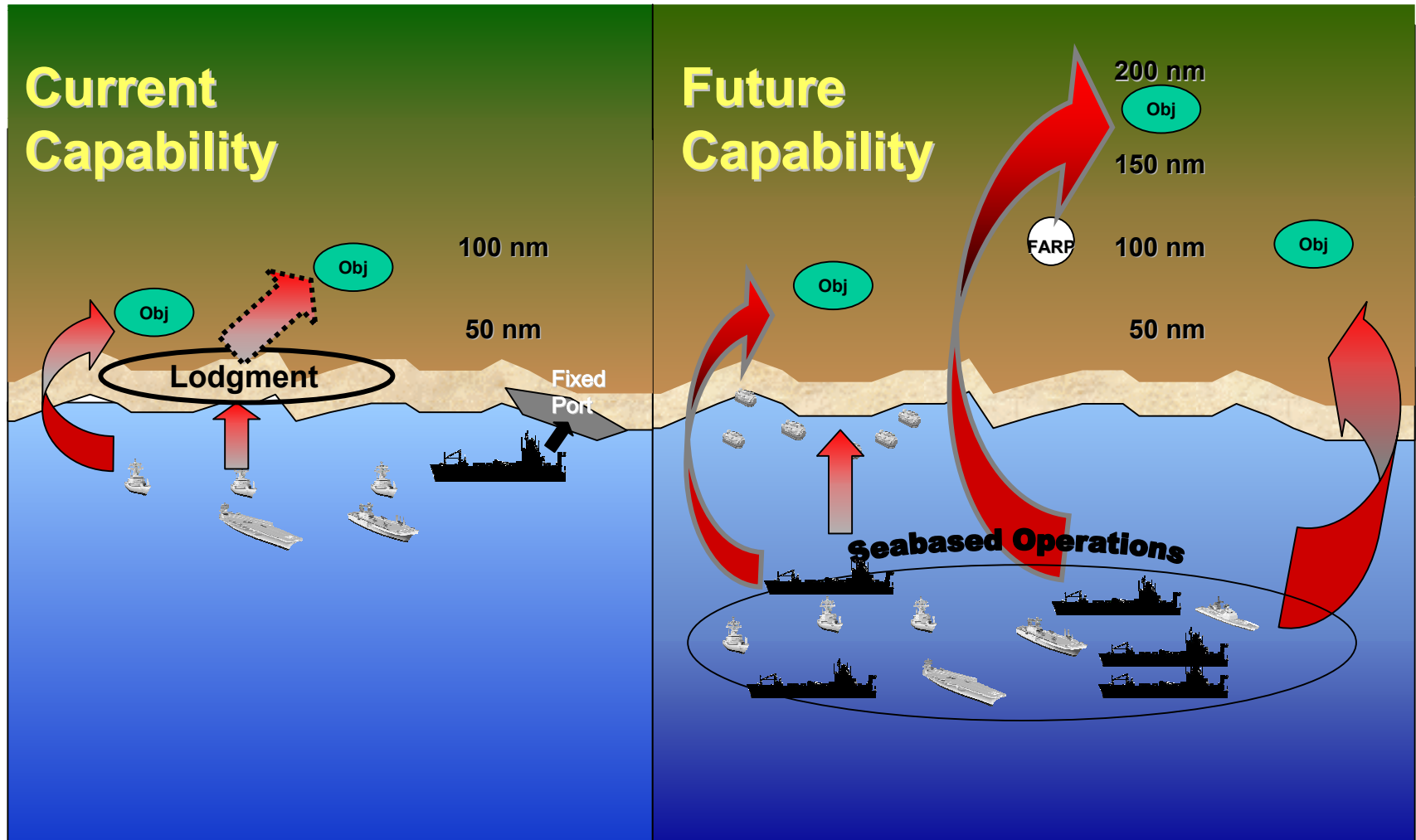
- Dispersed forces dissipate enemy combat power, leaving him vulnerable to defeat in detail
- Concentrated forces create exploitable gaps in an adversary's defensive network



- **Integrates operational fires and maneuver**

- Integrated fire and maneuver enables the Joint Force to fix and engage the enemy
- Naval aviation & surface fires provide high-tempo support to SOF and forcible entry forces to shape the battlefield

# Ship-to-Objective Maneuver



**Greater use of sea as maneuver space, apply strength against weakness.  
Faster closure and initiation of Joint Sea Base, no operational pause for sustainment.  
Greater speed and operational reach to objectives.**



# Distributed Operations

## *The Next Step in Maneuver Warfare*

- Adapting our methods
- Remaining a flexible combined-arms force
- Exploiting a generation of combat-experienced decision-makers by distributing authority
- **Concept:**
  - Create spatial & temporal advantage w/ new capacity for integrated action by physically dispersed units
  - Sense and act across an expanded battlespace
  - Distribute & reaggregate seamlessly
  - Design operations to dynamically link both concentrated and distributed forces
- **Exploit:**
  - Networked command & control
  - Joint & organic fires



# Conclusion

---

- **We must create transformational capabilities relevant to Joint Force Commanders**
  - Seabasing
  - Operational Maneuver from the Sea
  - Ship to Objective Maneuver
  - Distributed Operations